IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shigeo FUJITA et al. Conf.:

Appl. No.: 09/447,257 Filed: November 23, 1999

Patent No: 6,261,737 Issued: July 17, 2001

For: POLYMETHINE COMPOUNDS, METHOD OF

PRODUCING SAME, AND USE THEREOF

AMENDMENT PAPER INDICATING CHANGES IN SPECIFICATION AND CLAIM

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 17, 2003

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes Amendments to Specification; Amendments to the Claims; and Remarks.

The amendments presented herein comply with the "Revised Amendment Format" as set forth in the Official Gazette Notice dated February 25, 2003. In accordance with the Notice, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)-(d) are waived.